COTTON CHATS

FROM

DRAPER COMPANY

SHIPMAN'S
COMMON-SENSE BINDER

PATENTED

JANUARY 19, 1892. APRIL 19, 1904

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ASA L. SHIPMAN'S SONS
MANUFACTURERS,
NEW YORK.

COTTON CHATS
By the Secretary of the
DRAPER COMPANY,
HOPEDALE, MASS.

No. 30. AUGUST, 1904.

A NEW METHOD OF FILLING HOPPERS ON NORTHROP LOOMS.

In the early years of Northrop loom introduction, we were told by many mill officials that the records which we were making in our own experimental room would be easily beaten after the mills had taken the looms under their own charge. This we were perfectly willing to concede, and results have proved the truth of this prognostication. Quite recently one of our salesmen reported to us that the weavers in a certain mill were adopting improved methods of filling the hoppers, or batteries, as some prefer to call them. We therefore sent our expert to investigate, and we append copies of his reports.

From Expert's Report for Week Ending July 23.

"I went to the —— mill to investigate their method of filling batteries. This consists of the weavers taking 8 bobbins from the filling box at one time, and then they get the ends of filling free from the butts of the bobbins and slip the bobbins in the battery almost at one operation. While there I timed all the weavers to see how long it took them to fill batteries that I had completely emptied on purpose to test them. The longest time it took to put in 24 bobbins was 2 minutes and 5 seconds. The shortest time was 1 minute and 30 seconds. I had the weaver use bobbins just as they came from the spinning room (not bobbins that had previously been in the hopper) and I timed them from the moment they put their hand in the large filling box to the time the battery was filled and threads in the proper position for weaving. According

to these figures (which are actual tests) on print work using 6 3-4 inch bobbins, it will take a weaver 6 minutes each day, per loom, to fill up batteries if they were completely empty, each loom to use 72 bobbins, which is about what a print loom will weave off. According to this, a weaver running 20 looms will spend 120 minutes per day filling batteries. Since I returned from the —— mill I have tested our own weavers at filling batteries and none of them can fill a battery the usual way in less than three minutes. Our weavers also have the advantage of the new short end disk, which has the latest bobbin holders, whereas the weavers at the —— mill have the old style spring to contend with. We know from experience that with the new style disk we can fill up a battery much quicker than we could with the old style disk, and I think that if the weavers at the —— mill had the new style disk, they would be able to fill them up in one minute."

With this method, it is evident that time will be saved by taking care at the spinning room not to let the frame run any appreciable time after the rail is wound down for doffing. As to the placing of the several bobbins at one time in the hopper, it is accomplished by holding them in the left hand with the palm upward, the right hand pushing them into place one at a time. It is somewhat difficult to describe a manual operation involving trained dexterity. To secure the best results in economy of time it is evidently advisable to let the hopper get reasonably empty before coming to fill it. It is an unnecessary waste of time and effort when weavers jump around from one loom to another to put one or two bobbins into a hopper, and it simply shows that such weavers could run many more looms if they would economize their energy. Many weavers find it convenient to carry a large number of extra bobbins in a pocket of their apron.

We believe that it will pay all of those now using Northrop looms to study this matter of filling hoppers very carefully and experiment by having their weavers try the placing of several bobbins in a hopper at one operation. The fact that weavers are running 20 looms each with coarse filling by use of such a method, is sufficient proof that it has great possibilities. Every mill that uses our loom dis-

covers some new point of importance, and we are glad to serve as a general clearing house for any information that will assist the users of Northrop looms to develop their highest utility.

Further quotation from report of our expert on this same mill is of additional interest.

"I find everything at this mill working very satisfactorily. The weavers are running 20 looms each on ticking. They fill their own batteries. On the same grade of goods on the —— looms, the weavers run from 4 to 6 looms each. While they pay 32 cents per cut on the —— looms, they pay 11 1-2 cents per cut on the Northrop looms. Mr. ——, the overseer of weaving, told me that he gets slightly more production, much better cloth, less cost for repairs, and more contented help (as they can afford to pay them better) on the Northrop looms than on their other looms. He also says that the Northrop loom is very much easier to keep in repair than another loom. While there, Mr. ——, the agent talked with me about the Northrop looms and he has nothing but praise for them. He says the repairs for everything about the loom do not cost him over three cents per loom per week. This includes shuttles."

We have had another report quite recently from one of the largest users of Northrop Looms, which confirms the low cost of supplies and repairs which are less than on their common looms, as in the above instance.

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SALES OF LOOMS.

We have now passed the 100,000 mark on loom sales, having sold the following total to July 1st:

No. of looms equipped with both filling-changer and warp stop-motion	102,653
No. of filling changers applied	102,729
No. of warp stop-motions applied	119,036

LOOM SALES BY STATES.

Out of the looms sold or changed over with full equipment of both filling changer and warp stop-motion we find the division by states as follows:—

South Carolina, ... 36,969

Over half the total looms running.

Massachusetts 16,707

Georgia 9,993

North Carolina 9,940

Rhode Island 5,468

Maine 4,990

Some Northrop looms in every large mill in the state.

Connecticut 4,297

New Hampshire 3,885

Hardly a mill without them.

Alabama 3,518

Tennessee 1,462

Vermont 1,308

Louisiana 1,084

Rest scattering in nine other states.

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NEW LOOM CATALOGUE.

We have just published an elaborate book of 240 pages with title, **Labor Saving Looms,** which we have sent out to those on our regular mailing list. We shall be pleased to send copies to possible purchasers of looms, also to those who are in responsible positions in mills which weave goods that can be produced on our looms.

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